

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 /080 W

----- 116942

R 030930Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4237

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCLANT

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 1470

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELTN AO

SUBJECT: CONDITIONS IN PORT OF LOBITO

REF: LUANDA 1421

1. ON SEPTEMBER 29 K.J.RJM NETHERCOT, A BRITISH SUBJECT, AND DIRECTOR OF LEOPOLD WALFORD SHIPPING LIMITED COMPANY (LONDON), THE EUROPEAN SHIPPING AGENTS FOR THE BENGUE RAILROAD, RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO LOBITO AND INFORMED THE CONSULATE GENERAL AS FOLLOWS:

2. THE PORT OF LOBITO IS NOW MOVING AT A SLOW PACE LARGELY BECAUSE OF CONGESTION. THERE ARE JUST NOT ENOUGH STORAGE FACILITIES DUE TO CLOSURE OF THE RAILROAD. THE DEPARTURE OF CONSIDERABLE SUPERVISORY AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL IS ALSO HAVING ITS EFFECT. HE STATED THAT ON SEPTEMBER 28 THE LOCAL MPLA COMMANDER ANNOUNCED "WE ARE AT WAR WITH ZAIRE" (FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF FNLA) AND THUS "NOTHING WILL BE SHIPPED OR TRANS-  
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SHIPPED TO ZAIRE." (FOR EXAMPLE, TO MATADI OR BANANA.) SOURCE ALSO

STATED THAT SENIOR MPLA OFFICIALS IN LUANDA WERE MOVING TO OVER-RULE THE LOCAL COMMANDER AS THEY DID NOT WANT TO DAMAGE MPLA "IMAGE AS A RESPONSIBLE GROUP."

3. SOURCE STATED THAT THE MAIN ACTIVITY IN PORT OF LOBITO IS NOW OUTLOADING HOUSHOLD EFFECTS OF PORTUGUESE REFUGEES FROM CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ANGOLA AND THE REFUGEES THEMSELVES WHO ARE BEING SENT BY SEA IN FAIRLY CROWED CONDITIONS TO LUANDA FOR AIRLIFT TO LISBON.

4. HE SAID THAT ON SEPTEMBER 28 A CONVOY OF 500 VEHICLES, MOSTLY PRIVATE CARS, ARRIVED IN LOBITO FROM SOUTHWESTERN AND CENTRAL ANGOLA AFTER HAVING SOME DIFFICULTIES IN CROSSING FROM FNLA/UNITA CONTROLLED TERRITORY TO MPLA TERRITORY.

5. HE SAID THAT MORALE WAS GENERALLY POOR IN THE AREA OF LOBITO BENGUELA, THAT PORTUGUESE MILITARY AUTHORITIES HOPED TO DEPART ON OCTOBER 15 AND THAT MUNICIPAL SERVICES ARE BEGINNING TO BREAK DOWN.

KILLORAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PORT CONGESTION, STORAGE, CARGO SHIPS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 OCT 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchandr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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